ABSTRACT

[0060] A system performs a file level backup operation on data using a mirror disk and a primary disk. Individual files of the backed up data are backed up from the mirror disk to a backup storage device while, after a database quiesce period, a database application on a host system can freely read from and write to a database stored on the primary disk. The database quiesce period occurs as part of the file level backup operation. The system has a primary disk and a mirror disk. A file level mirrored backup portion is provided, which is operable to initiate a file by file backup of data from the mirror disk to sequential storage media. A synchronizer synchronizes data from the primary disk to the mirrored disk upon an intitiation of a file level mirrored backup process by the file level mirrored backup portion. A database quiesce mechanism is operable, after the synchronizer synchronizes the data from the primary disk to the mirror disk, to quiesce read and write interactions between the database application and the primary disk. A discovery and prepare mechanism is operable after the quiescing of the read and write interactions to conduct discovery and prepare phases of a file by file mirrored backup operation. A backup and cleanup mechanism backs up certain identified files from the mirror disk to the sequential storage media after completion of the discovery and prepare phases. A split mechanism is operable to split the mirror disk from the primary disk before backing data files up from the mirror disk to the sequential storage media. An extent mapping mechanism performs extent mapping on files to be backed up in a given backup session before the split mechanism splits the mirror for the same given backup session. The extent mapping may be done earlier – before the database quiesce mechanism quiesces the read and write interactions for the same given backup session, in one embodiment.